dear les, 11/10/76

not damon runyon, tendon and sheath, right forearm. not serious.

to go no farthur for now - the cia has extensive king and king assassination files. i am getting them. the reason for asking that you say nothing is to keep the ripoff artists from my back and misusing these records as they do everything.

how extensive?they estimate search fees alone at $1,000. fortunately i had established an account in washington for honoraria and the few gifts i get so jim could pay that promptly. with the reservation of right to get my money back. we have already filed for this with dj-fbi, in court when levi did not respond.

they claim their files hold exempt or personal material requiring releases from mrs. king and ray. i had one from ray (who gets crazier by the day) for dj. jim sent it in and has asked Mrs. king.

unless there is some kind of trickery the amount of the search fee indicates many files, not just many records.

there are some funny things about this, the most obvious being they are responding to this request while ignoring some much older.

i am continuing to get the fbi headquarters file. i have gone over the first four volumes. jim has had an extra xerox made of the 4th and 5th. yesterday the fbi told him that the 6th and 7th can be picked up today. he will xerox a working set ind.c., where it costs half as much. if nobody comes up i will get them the 17th, when i have a regular post-phlebitic checkup in d.c.

in the records i have gone over i have spotted what can be a hot lead. you were away and they pay well so i mentioned it to a friend i can trust on the enquirer. i expect him after a couple of weeks. this relates to my reconstruction, under which the fbi knows who was involved in the king killing but cannot prove it. there is a reasonably good possibility that they also learned of this another way. they did not pick ray's prints up in the flophouse but they did get prints not his. ditto for the safe-deposit box in birmingham, where the prints were not of bank employees,either.

the costs accumulate and most of the stuff is junk - the major files are not in headquarters in political cases - but thus far it is worth the time and cost.

the real reason i write is about mcculloch, etc. i had expected to work on the incomplete foreman chapter but what i dug out turns out to be the incomplete chapter on your work. not only would i like to use the name after all this time but it is now without doubt that the name is known through reditt's talking to lane and to the new committee. in addition, if you are not going to be able to go further with this when you are back and you paper does not want to another washington reporter has spoken to me in a way that makes me believe he might follow up on the federal career.

i have broken with sprague and his top committee honchos. they are liars who also practise the worst vices of over-zealous prosecutors and other abuses. i think lane now is also personna non grata. he had a little help in exposing himself in public where it amounts to his saying that sprague owes his job to lane. ...the spooks have been manipulating the committee and the papers, particularly the wx post, amateurishly but successfully. the post hotshots, who were less than honest and ignored cautions, are uptight, so much so that another mouthpiece was turned to.

best to all,